

**Jail Population Management Subcommittee
of the
Sanford “Sandy” Krasnoff Criminal Justice Council**

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, April 26

1:30pm – 3:00pm

-
- | | | |
|-------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| I. | Opening | Judge Calvin Johnson |
| II. | Jail Population Snapshots | Sarah Schirmer |
| III. | Release on Recognizance Report | Commissioner Jonathan Friedman |
| IV. | Report from OPSO Compliance Director | Director Darnley Hodge |
| V. | 10-Day Detention Hearing Updates | Judge Camille Buras |
| VI. | JPM Subcommittee Resolution | Subcommittee Members |
| VII. | Community Advisory Group Updates | CAG Representatives |
| VIII. | Subcommittee Member Updates | Open to Members |

Criminal Justice Council Jail Population Management Subcommittee Minutes
April 26, 2018

On April 26, the Jail Population Management Subcommittee of the Criminal Justice Council convened at 1:40 pm in the 8th Floor Homeland Security Conference Room in City Hall. The following persons were present/absent:

Jail Population Management Subcommittee

Present:

Criminal Justice Commissioner Calvin Johnson –
Subcommittee Chair
Deputy Chief Paul Noel, New Orleans Police
Department
Derwyn Bunton, Orleans Public Defenders
Tobie Lamy, Probation & Parole
Councilmember Susan Guidry
Deputy City Attorney Charlene Larche-Mason
Jonathan Wisbey, Chief Administrative Office
Director Darnley Hodge, Orleans Parish Sherriff's
Office
Virginia Ryan, Orleans Parish Sherriff's Office
Chris Bowman, District Attorney's Office
Samantha François, Community Representative
Karen Wong, Community Representative
Al Christophe, Community Representative

Absent:

Judge Camille Buras, Criminal District Court
Judge Harry Cantrell, Criminal District Court
Terrie Guerin, Clerk of Criminal District Court

Office of Criminal Justice Coordination

Sarah Schirmer
Shelbi Flynn

I. Opening

Sarah Schirmer opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

II. Release on Recognizance Report

Commissioner Friedman gave updates on the Release on Recognizance (ROR) initiative. He reiterated the value of removing fears and preconceptions about pretrial release by focusing on data. In current practice, all things are not equal and economics creates the greatest disparity among defendants. Moving forward, it will be important to think about what a nominal bond really means and set bond accordingly.

Last month, preliminary data was presented on this initiative, which indicated very little progress. However, further analysis revealed errors that were corrected for this presentation. ROR's increased by 20% from the third quarter to the fourth quarter. Nominal bond rates decreased. Failure to appear and re-arrest rates remained consistent regardless of time period or release type. See presentation for further detail.

III. Public Safety Assessment Update

Sarah Schirmer announced that the Public Safety Assessment (PSA) tool will go live in June. The tool considers nine factors to assess the risk of new criminal activity and failure to appear. The PSA is accompanied by a Decision-Making Matrix, which provides release and supervision recommendations based on the PSA scores. All elements of the PSA model have been approved by Criminal District Court en banc and staff have been trained in the use of the tool and matrix.

IV. Report from OPSO Compliance Director

Director Darnley Hodge introduced himself and commended the Subcommittee for its work thus far. Director Hodge noted that he would not speak about his vision for the jail, as he is only in his current position temporarily, but described his current priorities. He plans to divide the jail into four units, so that each unit can be managed consistently and effectively. This will promote accountability and responsibility for both staff and inmates. Director Hodge is also working to develop adequate policies and procedures and will conduct trainings for staff once these are complete.

A member of the public, Dr. Andrea Armstrong asked if there would be medical and mental health professionals assigned to each unit. Director Hodge affirmed that this would be the case under his proposed structure. Dr. Armstrong asked if the jail could be retrofitted to provide appropriate mental health services if the jail population decreased. Director Hodge responded that the size of a current unit would be too large for a mental health unit and that it would be better to have a separate facility.

Al Christophe noted that data he received from the City indicated that there are 65 people in jail who have been there for over one year without their charges being accepted. Chris Bowman responded that the longest a person can be held without charges is 120 days, and this is only for capital offenses. Al is working with Virginia Ryan to get further information.

V. 10-Day Detention Hearing Updates

Sarah Schirmer informed the Subcommittee that 10-day detention hearings have been further expanded, and are now being used by 10 of the 12 sections of court. Judge Johnson noted that many of the participating judges have found the initiative helpful and are seeing defendants get in front of them in court much quicker.

VI. JPM Subcommittee Resolution

Sarah Schirmer introduced the final version of the JPM Subcommittee Resolution. Councilmember Guidry motioned for a vote on JPM Subcommittee Resolution R-18-01; Derwyn Bunton seconded.

10 in favor; no nays; 3 abstentions.

The resolution was adopted.

VII. Community Advisory Group Updates

Judge Johnson commended the CAG for their work and noted the uniqueness of their presence as voting members of the Subcommittee. Karen Wong expressed that the CAG will continue meeting and that they are honored to be a part of this work and the Subcommittee.

VIII. Subcommittee Member Updates

Sarah Schirmer updated the group on the status of the SJC grant. New Orleans received a no-cost extension through September 30th and there is a balance left on the grant for the incoming administration. The use of these funds should be considered and approved by the Subcommittee. There will also be an opportunity to apply for another round of funding through the MacArthur foundation, likely within the next few months.

Judge Johnson thanked everyone who came on Tuesday to the Criminal Justice Committee presentation and Councilmember Guidry for the opportunity to present on Jail Population Reduction. Judge Johnson noted that it was Councilmember Guidry's last Subcommittee meeting and thanked her for her advocacy and ability to determine the appropriate legislative response to the issues.

Councilmember Guidry thanked Judge Johnson and the Subcommittee and reminded everyone that the juvenile justice system needs the same level of attention and commitment that she has seen in the Subcommittee.

The meeting adjourned at 2:58pm.